

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 L-03 NSC-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 SP-02 EB-08 COME-00

AID-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /062 W

-----124218 191226Z /53

R 190830Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5801

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: MILI, MASS, EAIR, EGEN, CM, TO

SUBJ: GATEWAY INTERNATIONAL REP VISITS CAMEROON

1. JUNE 15 JOHN GRECO, CAMEROON EX-PCV AND PRESENTLY GATEWAY REP, CALLED ON DCM TO DISCUSS CURRENT GATEWAY PLANS. HE HAD JUST BEEN TO SEE GENERAL SEMENGUE, INSPECTOR GENERAL OF ARMED FORCES AND DIRECTOR OF COORDINATION STAFF, AND REQUESTED INFORMATION CONCERNING THE FMS CREDIT PROGRAM. HE STATED THAT HE HAD BEEN ASKED BY GENERAL SEMENGUE TO PREPARE PROPOSALS COVERING JEEPS AND TRUCKS. HE WAS TOLD THAT A CERTAIN SUM OF MONEY WAS BEING LOANED TO THE CAMEROON GOVERNMENT, AND THEY COULD PROCURE GOODS AND SERVICES UNDER THIS LOAN BY LETTERS OF OFFER FROM THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT OR THROUGH COMMERCIAL PURCHASES. HE ALSO ASKED ABOUT PLANS FOR MTT'S AS AMERICAN MOTORS WAS CONCERNED THAT THEIR EQUIPMENT WAS NOT OPERATIONAL AND THEY HAD ASKED GATEWAY TO ASCERTAIN IF A FACTORY TEAM MIGHT BE HELPFUL.

2. GRECO CLAIMED THAT GATEWAY WAS STILL INTERESTED IN

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PURRING IN A REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE FACILITY FOR MACK TRUCKS IF THEY COULD BE ASSURED OF A SALE OF 100 OR ABOUT \$7 MILLION. HE SAID THEY HAD MADE A GURC FIRM OFFER OF 100 PERCENT COMMERCIAL FINANCING FOR MACK TRUCKS AND NO PAYMENTS TO BE MADE UNTIL AFTER A REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE FACILITY WAS INSTALLED. IF THE GURC ACCEPTS THIS PROPOSAL THEN GATEWAY, IN COOPERATION WITH EXARCOS, A GREEK-OWNED LOCALLY ESTABLISHED CONSTRUCTION

FIRM, WILL BUILD FACILITY IN DOUALA (THE LAST TIME GRECO DISCUSSED HIS PLANS HE CLAIMED THAT SETIMEG WAS TO BE THE LOCAL PARTNER).

3. GRECO INDICATED THAT HE WAS MEETING CLIFTON BEST, ASSISTANT TREASURER OF AMERICAN EXPRESS BANK, NEW YORK, AND TOGETHER THEY ARE PLANNING TO GO TO LOME ON JUNE 17 TO TRY TO MAKE FINAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AIR TOGO, WHICH WOULD CONSIST OF A USED BOEING 727 (ON WHICH HE CLAIMED TO HAVE EXPORT IMPORT FINANCING) AND TWO FAIRCHILD F27 AIR CRAFT. BEST IN LATER CONVERSATION WITH ECON OFFICER CLAIMED HE NOT INVOLVED IN AIRPLANE DEAL. IN ADDITION ON THIS TRIP HE WAS PLANNING ON GOINGHVO ABIDJAN AND OW GADOUGOU ON GATEWAY AFFAIRS. PREVIOUSLY HE HAS VISITED KINSHASA AND LIBREVILLE.

4. COMMENT: IT SHOULD BE NOTEDHHHAT GRECO'S VIEW FROM YAOUNDE IS NOT ALWAYS AS CLEAR AS EL GRECO'S VIEW OF TOLEDO.
SMYTHE

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